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NEW
OPEN





“Smile awhile”

===== "Smile-a-while" =====

COMPILED AND PUBLISHED

BY
JOE BREN
CHICAGO

1918

LT



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BY

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MOON WOMAN
MAGICAL
MAGICK

BEQUEST
ESTATE OF SETTIE BLUME STERNE
JUNE 10, 1930

PREFACE

This little volume goes forth upon its mission of fun to help brighten the days of gloom which sometimes try to overwhelm us; it is hoped that even in sunshine, when the song of the birds and the sight of beautiful flowers gladden the heart, this book will serve as a reminder of the joy and happiness derived from good wholesome wit and humor. We often hear it said, "Have you heard the story about the little shoemaker," or, "Here's a story about the farmer from Kankakee—have you heard it?"

Hence, as many good stories come and go, from authors unknown, no claim is made for originality in every story in this booklet, but the compiler takes this opportunity of making a sweeping acknowledgment of appreciation to all unknown originators and to those who first brought some of these stories to his attention.

Here's to the fellow who smiles today
And who smiles tomorrow, too,
No matter whether he's feeling gay
Or whether he's feeling blue.
The smiles we see in the sunshine
Don't always last as long
As the smile that smiles upon us
When ev'rything seems to be wrong.

===== *Smile-awhile* =====

IN THE TENT

Private Smith (after reading love letter)—
“After it’s all over, I believe I’ll marry that girl
—but the trouble is she’s rich, and I want to
be sure I love her.”

Private Jones—“That’s a good idea.”

Private Smith—“Yes, I don’t think a man
should marry a woman for her money—without
love.”

Private Jones—“Well spoken, old chap, and
I agree with you—a man should never marry a
woman for her money—without love. But if
she is rich—golly, how I could love her.”

□□□□

IN A BASE HOSPITAL

A soldier, desiring to make his will, called
for a lawyer.

A clause in the will read: “. . . and I
wish my Ford runabout to be buried with me,
because it has pulled me out of many a hole
and I want to take one last chance.”

===== "Smile-a-while" =====

IN HOT WEATHER

In a regiment of colored soldiers it was noted at evening drill that Sam Jackson was absent. The following morning at roll call Jackson's name was read, and he was asked to step forward to give his reason for being absent the day previous.

"I was down to the city, Captain," said Sam, "and just as I started for de camp I was unavoidably detained."

"How so?" remarked the Captain.

"Well, suh," replied Sam, "they arrested me, put me in jail, and kept me there all night and it was bakin' hot."

"What had you been doing?" asked the Captain.

"Nuthin' 'tall, suh; they just put me in and kept me there until de judge came, and I suah conspired—it was so hot."

"I understand," continued the Captain, "but what was the charge—what did they charge you with?"

===== "Smile awhile" =====

"They put me in free, Captain," replied Sam;
"they didn't charge me a cent."

"Yes, but what did the judge say you were
guilty of?"

"I think," said Sam, "he said I was guilty
of *fragrancy*."



THE PRIVATE'S LAMENT

That "money talks" it's plain to see
But oft I wonder why
The only thing it says to me
Is, "So long, John, goodbye."



TWO OF A KIND

First Sergeant—"Private Brown, go up yon-
der hill and get the enemy's range."

Private Brown (after absence of one hour)—
"I can't get their range right now, sergeant."

First Sergeant—"Why not."

Private Brown—"Cause they're cooking din-
ner."

—“Smile-a-while”—

A MISTAKE

The regiment had been called to go to the front. The company was told to line up at an unusually early hour.

“Our bugler has been transferred,” said the sergeant; “is there another bugler in this company?”

A big, heavy set private stepped forward and saluted.

“Are you a bugler?”

“Golly—no—excuse me; I thought you said burglar.”



ANOTHER MISTAKE

July 15th — Southern Camp — Temperature 105.

Company had been drilling for three hours without a pause.

Finally the Captain called: “Parade Dress.”

Immediately one recruit fell upon his knees, and with clasped hands uplifted, began praying aloud.

“What are you doing?” yelled the Captain; “didn’t you hear me call ‘Parade Dress’?”

“Parade dress,” answered the private; “gec, I thought you said ‘pray for rest’.”

===== *Smile awhile* =====

A GOOD WAITER

Captain (to private who has just been promoted)—“You can now proceed to the Major's office and receive your orders.”

* * * *

One hour later:

Captain (to same soldier)—“Did you receive your orders from the Major?”

Soldier—“Yes, sir—I received two orders from the Major.”

Captain—“What were they?”

Soldier—“Get out and stay out.”

□□□□

A NEW WAY

German soldier, having reached a safe place behind the fighting line, tells of his experience on the Marne.

“I killed seventeen Americans single handed.”

“How did you do it?” asked his comrades.

“Run 'em to death.”

“How could you run 'em to death?”

“Just working in the lead.”

Smile-a-while

BACK FROM THE FRONT

Private Jones was tall and thin. In fact I was what is called "skinny."

Home on a furlough, the station master was first to greet him. With a hearty handshake he said:

"Glad to see you're back from the front, Skinny."

"What's that?"

"I say I'm glad to see you're back from the front."

"Well, I always knew I was skinny, but that the first time I ever knew a man could see me back from the front."



RIGHTO

Officer (questioning captured Hun)—"Where did you come from?"

Hun—"I came clean from Berlin."

Officer—"Well, that's the first time I ever heard of anybody coming 'clean' from Berlin

“Smile awhile”

NO DOUBT ABOUT IT

Mr. B. (reading evening paper)—“I see where they are going to draft all the packing house officials and put them on the firing line.”

Mrs. B.—“That must be a mistake. The army doesn’t want men like that. They want strong, able bodied men.”

Mr. B.—“They may not be able bodied, but they sure know how to *charge*.”

□□□□

THE TAILORS, TOO

He—“I understand the government is going to request all the tailors to enlist.”

She—“Well, they surely ought to give the Germans *fits*.”

□□□□

AT THE DRAFT BOARD

“What is your occupation?”

“I’m a street car conductor on the State Street line.”

“What is your name?”

“Rob Nickels.”

===== "Smile awhile" =====

Did you ever say—

"Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers" ten times in rapid succession?

Then try this:

The folks are welcoming him home.

□□□□

FOR THIN ONES

He was six feet four and very thin. They called him tall and skinny. He enlisted and was sent to a camp. He went away happy and gay. He continued happy until he reached camp and then he became peeved because some one said he looked like "six o'clock—straight up and down."

QUI

The Captain
he bought " "
night he sm
next day he

"Those
dealer; "I
smoke the rest and
on my hands."

"Five? You're lucky. I've got *ten thousand*
on my hands."

• *smile while* •

TO THOS^z

air, Bill Jones
At a bas
dertaker's
Parson
very
it
her



OUT OF LUCK

A sailor boy entered a moving picture house in New York City—along the East Side district. He was smoking, so the manager stopped him.

"You can't smoke in here; it's against the rules."

"What's the matter—don't you carry fire insurance?"

"Yes, we've carried fire insurance for twenty-seven years already, but we ain't had any luck yet."

“Smile awhile”

Did you ever ~~ever~~ ^{ever} WHO UNDERSTAND
BASEBALL

“Peter Pi
pers” ten ball game between two colored teams,
They Jones was asked to umpire. He knew
T little about the game, but in that locality
was necessary to select some one whose in-
egritiy was above reproach, and who was free
from assault. The “home team” came to bat,
the first four balls thrown to the batter went
wild, consequently the Parson called four balls
and the batter took his base. The same thing
happened to the next two batters, and thus the
bases were filled with three men who had re-
ceived “base on balls.” The same pitcher con-
tinued and to the fourth man, Umpire Parson
Jones called, “One ball”—“Two balls”—“Three
balls”—“Four balls”—“YOU'RE OUT.”

Immediately every player on the home team,
except those on bases, surrounded the umpire.
“What do you mean,” yelled the Captain—“Four
balls, you're out—what kind of play is that?”

“Well,” said Umpire Jones, “I had to call him
out, cause the bases are full and I ain't got no
place to put him.”

===== *Smile-awhile* =====

A SURE SIGN

In speaking of his first love affair, Bill Jones says:

"My first love affair was with an undertaker's daughter. I used to call on her every Sunday and had dinner with the family. I could always tell if business had been good with her father the day before, because they would have *flowers* on the table and *ice* in the butter."

□□□□

A DIFFERENCE

Oh what a difference just a few years will make.

Little Johnny's definition of a "strait"—"A narrow body of water between two bodies of land."

His father's definition of the same word—"A nine, ten, jack, queen and king."

□□□□

OVERTAKEN

Regular—"How did you come to get into the army?"

Newcomer—"I didn't *come* to get into it—it just naturally *overtook* me."

===== *Smile awhile* =====

MARRIAGE AND ARITHMETIC

Is marriage like arithmetic? Well, now let us see.

You take a wife—"addition." Then you raise a family,

And that's "multiplication"—about it there's no doubt.

But some one steals her from you, and when you find it out.

You say, "Why, that's 'subtraction,' " and then if a divorce

Should seem quite necessary that's "division"—why, of course.

And then comes alimony; let us see what that would be.

Can't we call it "partial payments?" That would seem the best to me.

And—oh, yes—our mother-in-law we've forgotten all about.

But that's "higher mathematics," cause you just can't figure it out.



THE TRAP DRUMMER in the orchestra may not make very good music—but one thing is certain. Sometimes he helps to drown a heap of bad music.

===== "Smile-a-while" =====

DO YOU BELIEVE IN SIGNS?

On the wall of the stage of an old theatre, evidently built in the early sixties, there appears a sign:

"We know our theatre is terrible;
how's your show?"

□□□□

WATCH YOUR STEP

A western Arizona mining town boasts of two hotels. In the lobby of one appears this sign:

X "If you don't like the way this place is run, give us \$10,000 cash and run it yourself."

In the lobby of the other appears this sign:

"If the clerk is not as attentive as you think he should be, tell him about it, so he can have the pleasure of knocking you down."

===== "Smile awhile" =====

QUITE DIFFERENT

French soldier—"You Americans are wonderful fighters. Everything that comes from America is wonderful. But France is a wonderfully productive country—a garden spot—vegetables, flowers, everything."

American soldier—"Yes, that is true. And how do you account for such wonderful flowers, monsieur?"

French soldier—"Wee, wee—climate, my boy, climate."

American soldier—"I see. And did you hear about the wonderful buildings we have in America—forty, fifty, sixty stories high? Why, do you know in my town there is a building fifty stories high, and it has no elevators in it."

French soldier—"Building fifty stories high and no elevators? How do you get to the top?"

American soldier—"We, we climb it, my boy, climb it."



If you start an argument about the war, the first thing you know you'll be in a battle yourself.

===== "Smile awhile" =====

AT THE EXEMPTION BOARD

"What is your occupation."

"Dentist."

"Your name."

"Dr. Payne."

"Who were your forefathers?"

"I never had four—only had one."

"Were you raised in Illinois?"

"Yep."

"What part?"

"Why, all of me, of course."

"Married or single?"

"Married."

"How long married?"

"Three years."

"Have you expressed an opinion or have you spoken much?"

"Not for three years."

□□□□

THE WAR has enabled some women to demand men's wages. Others are well satisfied; they are getting men's wages—every Saturday night.

===== "Smile awhile" =====

A BARGAIN

"How much is two plus two?" said the teacher to a class of youngsters.

Abey Cohn arose and said, "Two plus two is five."

"Abey," said the teacher, "I am surprised at you. Now get your hat, go home and stay there until you learn the problem, how much is two plus two."

Abey quickly departed and as he closed the door, he met Johnnie Green who was just coming to school.

"Say Johnnie," said Abey, "Tell me, how much is two plus two."

"Dats easy," said John, "Two plus two is four."

"Well don't go in der den," replied Abè, "cause I just offered the teacher five and she wouldn't take it."

□□□□

WE WONDER

Were General Sherman with us during the summer of 1918—would he use such a mild word?

===== *Smile awhile* =====

ADVICE TO MARRIED MEN coming home late at night.

Never sneak in; that won't work no matter how careful you are. You'll never get by with it. Just "bust in," very rough-like, and don't say a word. Remember, don't be the first to speak—if you do, you're gone.

First—turn on the electric light—and your wife will say:

"Where have you been?"

Don't say a word—remember, not a word.

Then she'll raise up in bed and will repeat, this time much louder:

"WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?"

Still not a word. You must control yourself. Then she'll say:

**"WELL, I KNOW GOOD AND WELL
WHERE YOU'VE BEEN,"**

and then she'll proceed to tell you where you've been. Now, it doesn't matter whether or not you've ever been there in your life, for the love of Mike say "THAT'S RIGHT." Then she'll compliment herself on how smart she is, cover up and go sound asleep.

===== "Smile awhile" =====

THE LAST OF AUGUST

In Evansville, Indiana, there was a saloon owned by a man named August, and was known as "August's Place." Mr. August was noted for being very witty. He kept a large blackboard in front of his place and each day would see a humorous saying written thereon. During the winter of 1918, Indiana went dry, and the time set by the state legislature was April 2nd. One day there appeared on the blackboard:

"This year—April second will be the last of August."

□□□□

THREE OF A DIFFERENT KIND

New York City—a solid rock, entirely surrounded by water.

Chicago—a bunch of wind entirely surrounded by politics.

Detroit—an automobile entirely surrounded by Fords.

===== "Smile-a-while" =====

CARDS OR ANIMALS,

"Bill Jones, the banker, is leaving the bank to go to Chicago. I understand he is going to work in the Lincoln Park zoo."

"That's funny; what does he know about animals?"

"Oh, he knows a great deal about them."

"Yes, but he's such a grouch; it takes a very kind and affectionate man to train wild animals."

"Well, I'm certain he's mighty kind to animals, cause last night he stayed over night with me, and about three o'clock this morning, he sat straight up in bed and began yelling: *"Feed the kitty, boys, feed the kitty."*"

□□□□

First New Yorker—"I was over to Brooklyn yesterday for the first time."

Second New Yorker—"It's a beautiful city; don't you think it is well laid out."

First New Yorker—"Laid out? It ought to be; it's been dead long enough."

□□□□

Tears are to be used in story books and on the stage, but in every other place let's use a smile.

===== *Smile awhile* =====

THREE OF A KIND

Private (to sergeant, just back from furlough)—"How did you find everything at home?"

Sergeant—"I just got there in time to find an increase in the family and when I heard the news I fainted away."

Private—"Did the doctor revive you?"

Sergeant—"Did he what?"

Private—"I say, did the doctor revive you? Did he bring you to?"

Sergeant—"Bring me two? That the trouble —he brought me three."

□□□□

✓ HE WAS ABOUT TO BOARD THE TRANSPORT

"Here is a present to take with you Bill—a pair of Paris Garters."

"I always wear Boston Garters—why did you get me Paris Garters?"

"So 'No' metal can touch you.' "

===== "Smile-a-while" =====

MEOUW!

Man in first floor apartment (to new tenant across the hall)—“How did you enjoy your first night in the new flat?”

New tenant—“Terrible. I was up all night.”

Man in first floor—“What was the matter? Insomnia?”

New tenant—“Insomnia nothing. Tom-cats!”

□□□□

AT THE EXEMPTION BOARD

“State your occupation.”

“Theatrical business.”

“Vaudeville, musical comedy or drama?”

“Grand opera.”

“What part do you play?”

“I stand in front and holler for the carriages.”

□□□□

A MOVIE

Guard—“Halt! Who goes there?”

Voice (in the dark)—“Chaplain.”

Guard—“All right, Charlie; move along.”

===== "Smile awhile" =====

NOT NECESSARY

"Bill" from Des Moines was drafted in July, 1917, and sent to a Southern camp.

"Jim" from Des Moines was drafted in July, 1918, and sent to the same camp.

When "Jim" arrived he saw "Bill," who was a member of the band, and in a moment of surprise, asked:

"How did you get into the band 'Bill'; I didn't know you knew a blamed thing about music."

"I don't; I'm the leader."



ONE WEDNESDAY EVENING in January, "Billy" Sunday, the evangelist, was on his way to the tabernacle. Walking along the icy pavement he slipped and had quite a fall. There is nothing real funny about Sunday slipping on the icy pavement, but there is something funny in the fact that it's the first time we heard of *Sunday falling on Wednesday*.

“Smile-awhile”

It is funny what a couple of words will do.
Practically every gossip-fest, coffee-clatch,
panic and war has started with

“THEY SAY”
or
“I HEARD”

□□□□

Would it make you smile to know, that, in a small town in the State of Missouri, Mr. and Mrs. Lopp believed in naming their children after Biblical characters? There is not much of a smile in that, but there is in the *fact* that upon one of the sons fell the name of

**MESCHACH, SHADRACH, ABEDNEGO
LOPP.**

□□□□

And they claim, in another town in Missouri, a firm of undertakers is named:

“KETCHUM AND KELLUM”

□□□□

But still they come. In Chicago a man who has an established business, in vegetables, etc., is named

I. D. KAY.

===== "Smile awhile" =====

TRUE?

German officer (to private)—“As I looked through the window in my ‘observation tower’ I saw you running a mile a minute; what was the trouble?”

Private (to German officer)—“I was running to stop a fight.”

German officer (to private)—“Running to stop a fight? Who was fighting?”

Private (to German officer)—“Me and an American soldier.”

□□□□

SOME APPETITE

 Two rookies had been invited by Mr. Generous Citizen to attend a Thanksgiving dinner.

They were at the table for two solid hours and had just finished the plum pudding when the tallest of the two arose and said, “Will you please pardon me a moment if I leave the table.”

Before he thought how it would sound, his comrade said, “Yes, we’ll pardon you—the table’s all you did leave.”

===== "Smile awhile" =====

WHAT IMAGINATION MIGHT DO

Optimistic Private—"What you worrying about, Jack?"

Pessimistic Private—"I don't see how I'm going to get along financially. Yesterday was pay day, and after I paid all my bills I only have two dollars and forty cents left."

Optimistic Private—"O, don't worry; why, what would you think if you were to run your hand down in your trousers pocket and pull out a big roll of twenty-dollar bills?"

Pessimistic Private—"Think? I wouldn't think nothin'; I'd just *know* I had on some one else's pants."

□□□□

MOSE JACKSON and his family had not had chicken for several weeks. "What do you s'pose is the matter, Mandy?" said Mose; "we ain't had no chicken for several weeks, and I'se been praying every night for the Good Lawd to send us some chicken."

"Well, you quit prayin' to the Lawd to send you chicken and start prayin' to the good Lawd to send you to some chicken coop."

~~X~~ ***"Smile-a-while"***

OPENING THE KAISER'S EYES

It is an easy thing for the kaiser to see why so many of the German officers have an iron cross.

But what's puzzling him now is—how over a million Americans got a-cross.



IN THE ZOOLOGY CLASS

Teacher—"What is the definition of an elephant?"

Miss Senior—"A clumsy thing that takes you to a dance and steps all over your feet."



WAR SONGS are flooding the market, as never before; as far as the popular taste goes some are good, some bad and some indifferent. However, a way has been found in which to improve most of them—eliminate the words and music.

===== "Smile awhile" =====

TAKING NO CHANCES

Mose Jackson—"You suah look happy, Ebenezer. What yo' all been doin' to cause such obnoxious smilin'?"

Ebenezer—"I suah is happy. Met my gal yesterday, courted her las' night, and got married this mawnin'; golly, I'se happy."

Mose—"You sho' looks it."

Ebenezer—"But say, Mose, I want to ask you a favor. Will you keep this two-bits for me, please?"

Mose—"What's the matter, Ebenezer; don't you trust your wife?"

Ebenezer—"Yes, I trusts her—*personally* but not *financially*."

□□□□

The tailors proverb—

"As ye sew, so shall ye rip."

□□□□

One of the best known of all persons:

Mr. What Chu Maycallit.

===== "Smile-awhile" =====

BELIEVE IN SIGNS?

"We just discovered something wonderful, down at our house."

"What was it?"

"An intelligent chicken—a chicken that can read."

"I don't believe it, you'll have to prove it to me."

"All right; you know I live next door to the Imperial Coal Company, so yesterday, while working in my garden I saw one of our hens climb over the fence, go right to the top of a large pile of coal and lay an egg."

"There's nothing wonderful in that—any hen might do the same thing. How does that prove that she can read?"

"Because right in front of her, on the fence was a sign which read: 'NOW IS THE TIME TO LAY IN COAL.' "

□□□□

To have and to hold may be all right—but how about a Bumble Bee?

===== "Smile awhile" =====

NOT ON YOUR LIFE

Pat met Fritz in "No Man's Land"; each had lost his gun. They went at it with fists. Finally Pat got the better of Fritz and down they went in a heap, with Pat on top, pummeling away on Fritz's face.

"Let me up—let me up," said Fritz.

"Not on your life," said Pat; "I had too much trouble getting you down."



GOOD AT FIGURES

Private O'Brien was told to go over to a crowd of soldiers, take one-half of the amount, and go on a scouting party. It was midnight, and as Pat approached the men, he called:

"How many of ye is there?"

"Seven of us."

"All right; half of you follow me."



REMEMBER, BOYS, if your appetite's good—the cooking isn't so bad after all.

===== "Smile awhile" =====

ROUGHING IT

Private (to camp barber)—“From the way that feels, there must be a hack in your razor.”

Camp Barber—“What did you expect to find —an automobile?”



We must conserve our clothes, they say;
It's “never too late to mend.”
But for *Liberty Bonds* and *War Savings Stamps*
It's never too late to spend.



GOOD FOR HIM

A typesetter, working for a daily newspaper, thought he would play a joke, and in setting up the name, “German Crown Prince” he substituted the letter “l” for the letter “r” in the word “crown,” so that it read: “The German Clown Prince.”

Well, what's the difference—many a truth is spoken in jest.

===== "Smile-a-while" =====

Now, listen, friend; just take your hammer;
take it right away,

And give it to a blacksmith or a carpenter today.
For they can use it in a better way than ever you
can.

The hammer's not the weapon for a patriotic
man.

Yes, put away your hammer; it will never win
the race;

The weary world is waiting just to see your
smiling face.

And when you've done this, I'm sure you'll find
it well worth while

To cultivate the friendship of the "everlasting
smile."

□□□□

WHEN AUSTRIA was crying for food recently, the kaiser sent them one of his "famous" messages of cheer: "Have patience—the 'wurst' is yet to come."

===== "Smile-awhile" =====

Let's be conserving with our food and help to
Hooverize,
And travel very little so that we can *McAdooize*.
And with your light and heat we all can try to
Garfieldize,
But with it all let's hold our tongue and never
criticize.

□□□□

COULD HE AF-FORD IT.

Wife—Dearie, do you know that tomorrow is our TENTH WEDDING anniversary, I do hope you get me a nice present.

Hubby—What anniversary is it?

Wife—The Tenth—the fifth was china, and you got me such a beautiful dinner set. I am looking forward to something nice on our Tenth Anniversary.

Hubby—All right dear, I'll send you something appropriate of our tenth anniversary, the first thing in the morning.

The next day at ten, wifey received a second hand Ford runabout.

===== "Smile awhile" =====

A LONG WAIT

Simon Levy opened a clothing store and immediately took out \$25,000 worth of fire insurance. This was at noon, February twenty-first.

At three o'clock the same afternoon, fire broke out, causing considerable damage. The insurance company paid the claim immediately and simply wrote:

"We are glad to pay this claim."

The stock was replaced, and another fire insurance policy was written, this time for \$25,000, dated noon, April second.

At eight o'clock the next morning, another fire broke out destroying the entire stock of goods, but the insurance company paid the claim promptly, and simply wrote:

"We are glad to pay this claim."

The stock was again replaced, and another fire insurance policy was taken for \$25,000, dated from noon, June first.

The THIRD day after the policy was issued another fire broke out, much damage being done. The insurance company again paid the claim promptly but this time they wrote:

"We are glad to pay this claim, but we don't understand WHY YOU WAITED SO LONG."

===== "Smile awhile" =====

The man "over here" wrote the lad "over there,"
"I'm doing my bit today;
I've bought a bond to help the boys who are
many miles away."

* * * *

The lad "over there" wrote the man "over here,"
A nice little friendly letter:
"Doing your bit is not enough; doing your all is
better."

□□□□

ON \$5?

A man applied for a position as butcher.
"I can give you only \$5 per week," said the
one in charge.

"All right, I'll take the job," said the applicant.

"Can you cut meat?"

"Yes."

"Can you dress a chicken?"

"Well, not on \$5 per week."

===== *Smile-a-while* =====

ITALIAN NATIONAL AIR

"In France do they play the French national air as much as we play ours here in America?"

"Yes, you hear it everywhere."

"And in Italy, do they—oh, but what is the Italian national air?"

"Judging from the first town we passed through I thought the Italian national air was 'garlic.' "



ANOTHER SHIP SUNK

The Admiral was home on a furlough.

They were giving him quite a party, and sister Kate thought of a wonderful idea.

She baked a cake shaped so as to represent a battleship, with four layers, each layer to represent the different "decks" of the ship.

This was to be a surprise, and as the first few courses of the dinner were in progress, the "battleship" cake was placed on the back porch, but unfortunately while the family was at dinner all the kids in the neighborhood got together and *sunk the ship*.

===== "Smile-awhile" =====

A HOT DEAL.

Cohn and Son were clothing merchants, located in a Northern city; business had been very good for several years, but when the war broke out, a change came into their business and by degrees it fell off until, instead of showing a gain, there was quite a loss each month. The elder Mr. Cohn sent his son on a trip through the South, with the idea of trying to find a better location, a report having been circulated that clothing merchants in Southern cities were enjoying unheard of prosperity. A month passed, no word had been received from the son; just as the father was about to send a wire of inquiry as to the cause of the delay, a messenger appeared with a telegram which read:

"Have opportunity to locate in Mobile, Alabama, with guarantee of making at least ten thousand dollars a year for ten years, however, this place is terrible in the summer. Every day it is from 110 to 120 in the shade. Answer."

Whereupon the father replied:

"Close deal; will come at once. We do not have to live in the shade do we?"

===== "Smile-awhile" =====

HEARD IN THE AVENUE HOTEL— ✓ RUSHVILLE, U. S. A.

Complaining Guest—"Clerk, that mattr that's on my bed must be changed."

Clerk—"What's wrong with the mattress?"

Guest—"It only has three feathers in it."

Clerk—"Three feathers in it? Gosh—y ought to be tickled to death."

* * * *

Travelling Salesman—"What are the ra here now?"

Clerk—"Six dollars per day, American."

Travelling Salesman—"Well, for the Lan sake."

Clerk—"No sir—for the Land-lord's sake."

* * * *

Clerk (tapping bell)—"Front porter—h comes a patron."

Porter—"You don't mean patron; you m victim."

* * * *

Salesman (handing grips to porter)—"Do take commercial travelers?"

Porter—"Man, we take everything."

===== "Smile-awhile" =====

Clerk—"Will you have your bill by the day week or month?"

Guest—"I'll pay it each day; I always pay as I go."

Clerk—"Not here you don't; you pay as you come."

* * * *

Guest—"What are your rates?"

Clerk—"They are five dollars up."

Guest—"Five dollars up? Why I'm a politician."

Clerk—"Well in your case it will be five dollars down."

□□□□

HEARD IN THE TOWN HALL MINSTREL SHOW—BINGVILLE, U. S. A.

"Why does the lobster look so red?"

"It's blushing at the salad dressing."

* * * *

"Why are some men like umbrellas?"

"They have so many ups and downs."

* * * *

"What is a miracle?"

"A woman who will not talk."

* * * *

"Why is a grass hopper like a grass widow?"

"Because they both jump at the first chance."

===== *Smile awhile* =====

AN HOUR ON A PULLMAN PARLOR CAR—Out of New York.

✓ Passenger—"Conductor, does this train stop at Albany?"

Conductor—"Do you **WANT** to go to Albany?"

Passenger—"No, I don't *want* to—but I *have* to."

* * * *

Lady—"Porter, when the car stops, will you please tell me from which end to get off."

Porter—"It don't make no difference lady, cause both ends stop."

* * * *

Young boy—"What are those stripes for—the stripes on your coat sleeve, porter."

Porter—"Them's service stripes, sah—each stripe means I'se been in service five years."

Young boy—"Well then, how long have you been a Pullman porter?"

Porter—"Twelve years."

Young boy—"HONEST?"

Porter—"Well, about as honest as most porters."

===== "Smile-a-while" =====

Passenger—"I would like to get to Chicago the worst way."

Porter—"Then you're on the wrong train; you should have taken the Erie."

* * * *

They met upon the rear platform—

Conductor—"By the way Sam, how is it your uniform always looks so neat and well brushed?"

Porter—"Cause my wife takes care of it."

Conductor—"I didn't know you were a married man."

Porter—"Yep—I'se been married three times."

Conductor—"Three times?"

Porter—"Yep—once for love and twice for general housework."

Conductor—"How long have you been married to your present wife, Sam?"

Porter—"Next September, it will be Five Years."

Conductor—"Five years? Why that will be your wooden wedding."

Porter—"Wooden wedding—what's a wooden wedding?"

===== *Smile awhile* =====

Conductor—"It's like this; after you're married five years your friends give you such things as wooden potato mashers, wooden rolling pins, and—

Porter (feeling bumps on head)—"Good gracious man—my wife gave me them things 'fore we was married ten days."

Conductor—"I suppose you love your wife, Sam."

Porter—"I sho' do; when I'se off duty, I takes her to the theatre and every place—except possibly to a dance—she's too fat to dance."

Conductor—"Too fat?"

Porter—"Oh my yes—she weighs 379 pounds."

* * * *

Conductor—"Do you ever take her home a nice present?"

Porter—"Oh yes—just last month I gave her one of them nice wrist watches—and when she ain't wearin' it, she lets me use it."

Conductor—"What do you do with her wrist watch?"

Porter—"I wear it for my belt."

===== "Smile awhile" =====

They met, again, on the rear platform—

Conductor—"Sam, if you had to change jobs, what would you want to do?"

Porter—"I'd like to have the same kind of job you got—a half and half conductor."

Conductor—"Why do you call me a half and half conductor?"

Porter—"Half for you and half for the company—your half first."

Conductor—"Now I want you to understand that I turn over every Nickel to the company."

Porter—"I didn't say ~~any~~thing about the nickels—it's the dollars I'm talking about."

* * * *

Back in the car.

She—"Porter what time do we get to Brooklyn?"

Porter—"In half an hour."

She—"Oh, I'm just crazy to go to Brooklyn."

Porter—"Well anybody's crazy that goes to Brooklyn."

* * * *

Auctioneer—"What is the fare Conductor?"

Conductor—"Two dollars."

Auctioneer—"That's rather high isn't it?"

===== *Smile-awhile* =====

Conductor—"Don't ask foolish questions.
Who's that man sitting with you?"

Auctioneer—"That's my father-in-law."

Conductor—"Two dollars for your father-in-law."

Auctioneer (absentmindedly)—"All right—
sold for two dollars."

* * * *

Passenger—"When we get to Hammond,
Indiana, will I have time to get brushed off?"

Porter—"When we get to Hammond, Indiana,
you'll just have time to get pushed off."

* * * *

He tried to raise the window. It slipped from its fastening and his hand was caught. He gave a shriek.

"Oh, I'm in agony—I'm in agony."

And the Porter from the smoking room, yelled:
"You're in New York City; Agony is in Hoboken."

* * * *

Josh Spruceby—"Porter when we git to Chicago will you be sure to direct me to the hotel?"

Porter—"Which one?"

Josh—"Gosh, is there more than one?"

“Smile awhile”

FROM NOW ON.

A negro named Rastus Johnson had stolen some money, confessed his crime and was sentenced to the penitentiary; as he entered the gates of the prison, he saw his friend, Mose Jackson coming out. The guard allowed him to say a word to Mose.

Rastus (sorrowful) — “Whar you goin’, Mose?”

Mose (smiling) — “Been in fo’ five yeahs; got discharged and now I’m on my way. Whar you goin’?”

Rastus — “You know dog gone well whar I’s goin’.”

Mose — “How many days did de judge give you, Ras?”

Rastus — “He didn’t give me no days.”

Mose — “Den how many months did he give you?”

Rastus — “He didn’t give me no months.”

===== "Smile-a-while" =====

Mose—"Den how many yeahs did he give you?"

Rastus—"He didn't give me no yeahs."

Mose—"Well den what did he give you, Rastus?"

Rastus—"He just said to me—YOU IS IN FROM NOW ON."

□□□□

SCENE: DINING ROOM. X

Time: April 1st.

Mother seated at breakfast table.

Mother (to Willie, in kitchen)—"Come, Willie, it is time to eat breakfast."

Enter Willie.

Willie—"Oh mother, there's a man in the kitchen kissing the new maid."

Mother rises from table, angrily, starts for kitchen door.

Willie—"April fool, mother, it's only papa."

===== "Smile awhile" =====

SOME TALES ABOUT "TIGHT-FISTED HIRAM"

Hiram Green of Squeedunk, was very wealthy, but with it, he had a reputation of being the king of all "tight-fisted" human beings.

They say—he was so tight-fisted that when he decided to get married, he picked out a girl whose birthday came in Leap Year on February twenty-ninth, so that he'd only have to buy her a birthday present once every four years.

* * * *

And then they say—that every time leap year would come around, he'd pick a fuss with her on February twenty-eighth and come around to "make up" on March 1st.

* * * *

One Saturday night, as he and his "fair one" were passing by an ice cream parlor, she said:

"Won't you buy me an ice cream sundae?"

And Hiram said:

"Sorry dear, but I won't be here Sunday."

===== "Smile awhile" =====

They also say—in 1916 when Hiram made arrangements to purchase his Ford the dealer said:

“I guess I’ll sell you a 1920 Ford.”

“How the world can you sell me a 1920 Ford in 1916,” said Hiram.

“Well,” said the dealer, “It’ll be 1920 before I get your final payment on it.”

* * * *

One day Hiram was seen with a small cigar box under his arm; a friend who met him said:

“Why Hiram—are you taking to smoking cigars again?”

“No,” said Hiram, “I’m just taking my week’s washing to the laundry.”

* * * *

There was one thing about Hiram—with all his millions, he could be in a large crowd in front of a soda fountain for several hours, and every one would be commenting on Hiram’s wealth, but Hiram was so MODEST about it, you’d never think he had a cent.

===== "Smile-a-while" =====

One time his wife took part in a home talent play, and Hiram thought he would play a good joke upon her, so he sent her a big bunch of vegetables, onions, celery, radishes and so forth. They were passed over the footlights and the house roared; Mrs. Greene was not frustrated. She simply bowed and said: "I thank you Hiram—but how the dickens you could muster up enough nerve to spend twenty cents all at once, is BEYOND ME."

* * * *

They even say—he was so "close," he worked all day for seven years and every evening read the daily paper to his wife. That was considered "life" for Hiram. One evening there was a gas explosion in the cellar of their home, and the force of the explosion was terrific, blowing Hiram and his wife through the roof of the house. The Daily Gazette commented upon it the next day, as follows: ". . . the explosion had such force it blew Mr. and Mrs. Hiram

===== *Smile awhile* =====

Greene through the roof of their house. However, this was the first time in seven years that they were seen to go out together."

* * * *

Hiram was so "close" the teachers in the school used him as living examples to explain some arithmetic problems. One day a teacher asked her little scholar to give the answer to "How much is 25 from 75?" and the child said "Forty."

"Well, let me illustrate," said the teacher—"Suppose Hiram Greene is walking down the street; he has in his pocket seventy-five cents. You approach and ask him for twenty-five cents. Now how much has Hiram Greene in his pocket?"

"SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS," replied the child.

"No, no—you don't KNOW the example," said the teacher.

"Yes—but you don't know HIRAM GREENE," said the child.

===== "Smile-a-while" =====

Scene—Cozy little apartment, somewhere in Chicago.

Time—6:30 P. M.

Cast of Characters

Mrs. Jones (who had dinner ready at 6 o'clock).

Mr. and Mrs. Smith (who were invited to dinner at 6 o'clock).

Mr. Jones (who promised to be home to dinner at 6 o'clock).

Curtain—Mrs. Jones discovered at telephone (excited).

"Hello—hello—yes, yes—Central, I want 9876 Kenmore—no, no, no, that's our house num-

===== "Smile-awhile" =====

ber—let's see—wait—oh yes, I want Main 4 double oh two. Yes, that's it—hurry."

(Pause)

"Hello, well for the lands sake, what on earth is the matter with you. It's a wonder you couldn't be on time once in your life. I guess you had to go out and play golf all afternoon and here you invited Mr. and Mrs. Smith for dinner and told them to be here at 6 o'clock sharp. I'll bet when you get home you'll get a piece of my mind. I'll make you learn how to be more careful about your engagements. What's that? This is not MY HUSBAND? I'VE GOT THE WRONG NUMBER—

"G-O-O-D—N-I-G-H-T."





2





